

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 IO-13 /082 W
-----041509 140218Z /70

R 131501Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8911
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 7305

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PDEV, NI
SUBJECT: THE CA: THE FMG DELIBERATES

REF: (A) LAGOS 7232, (B) LAGOS A-19

1. ACCORDING TO CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY (CA) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS, MCAS WHO OBJECTED TO CHAIRMAN UDOMA'S ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY HAVE SIGNED TWO PETITIONS DEMANDING THAT THE ASSEMBLY BE RECALLED. BOTH PETITIONS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE FMG FOR CONSIDERATION WHICH IS APPARENTLY TAKING PLACE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

2. CA ASSISTANT CLERK R.I. MAEFULE TOLD US ON JUNE 13 THAT A PETITION FROM THE PRO-SHARIA GROUP HAD BEEN SIGNED BY 120 MCAS WHILE A PETITION ON RECALL OF THE ASSEMBLY TO CONSIDER THE CREATION OF NEW STATES HAD 132 SIGNATURES. THE EMBASSY POLITICAL/LABOR ASSISTANT RECEIVED SIMILAR INFORMATION DURING A JUNE 12 VISIT TO THE SATELLITE VILLAGE AND WAS TOLD THAT THE NEW STATE PETITION HAD BEEN SIGNED BY A NUMBER OF YORUBA MEMBERS WHO FAVOR THE CREATION OF OSHUN STATE (REF B). ACCORDING TO AMAEFULE, UDOMA HAS FORWARDED BOTH PETITIONS TO THE
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SMC WITH THE COMMENT THAT IT IS UP TO THEM TO DECIDE ON RECONVENING THE CA.

3. ANOTHER CA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, F.A. ENAHORO, TOLD US THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE CA, GIDADO IDRIS, WAS MEETING THIS MORNING AT DODAN BARRACKS WITH HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO. ENAHORO SAID THAT UDOMA WAS ILL AND

WOULD NOT BE AT THE MEETING.

4. COMMENT: THE FMG IS APPARENTLY NOW MAKING ITS
DECISION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE CA. OUR CANADIAN
COLLEAGUE, TERRY MOONEY, TOLD US THAT HE WAS AT DODAN
BARRACKS YESTERDAY TO MEET WITH DANJMA ON THE CANADIAN-
NIGERIAN ARMY ENGINEERING AGREEMENT AND THAT HIS
MEETING WAS POSTPONED TWICE UNTIL LATE AFTERNOON.
DANJUMA TOLD HIM LATER THAT A "SPECIAL" MEETING HAD TO
BE SCHEDULED AT SHORT NOTICE. ASSUMING THAT THE FMG
IS HUDDLING ON THE PROBLEM, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT
IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE ASSEMBLY WILL BE RECALLED.
THE LARGE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES ON BOTH PETITIONS WOULD
INDICATE THAT A RECONVENED ASSEMBLY WOULD BE POLITICAL
CHAOS. END COMMENT.
WYMAN

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